

June 19, 2003

Public Notice for 401 Certification

Scott/Shasta Valleys Watermaster Structure Improvement Project Siskiyou County

On June 9, 2003, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) requesting Federal Clean Water Act, Section 401, Water Quality Certification for a watermaster structure improvement project in Siskiyou County, California. The project has potential for causing disturbances to waters of the United States associated with several watercourses tributary to the Scott and Shasta Rivers in the Klamath River Hydrologic Unit, Scott River Hydrologic Area (HA) No. 105.40 Shasta Valley HA No. 105.50.

This project involves installing 20 prefabricated water measurement headgate structures and installation and/or repair of 22 water measurement weirs. These structure installations and construction repairs will occur on irrigation ditches hydraulically connected to various streams, tributary to the Scott and Shasta Rivers. The purpose of the project is to improve water measurement capability to more accurately proportion water deliveries under the court water rights adjudication.

Total disturbance to waters of the United States from this project is estimated as less than one tenth of an acre. Disturbance at each location will range from 42 square feet (ft²) to 84 ft².

All installation/construction will occur during dry ditch conditions either following the irrigation season or during water user requested haying outages. The project design includes placement of wing walls or cobble to prevent future headcutting around hardened structures. Project staging does not require removal of vegetation or soil disturbance. No access alterations are required for project installation.

DWR is the lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, has filed a Notice of Exemption with the State Clearinghouse.

Staff is proposing to regulate this project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341). Staff will consider any comments received during a 21-day comment period beginning on the first day of issuing this notice. If you have any questions or comments, please contact staff member Miguel Villicana at (707) 576-2347, or at villm@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov.